Lillian W. Belcher

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Chap. 6

CHURCH

THE REV. SAMUEL YOUNG

Samuel Young, second son of William Young, a pioneer, was born at the home of his father, who at that time owned and occupied the home where George C. Moore now lives near the head of Stony Creek.

In his younger days he was a rattler - full of fun and jokes. Some time in the early fifties he attended a meeting held by Rev. E. G. Jamison at Old Hamlin, and was converted. Soon after he united with the M. P. Church, and ere long became a minister in his church, took regular work and followed his calling for some years.

During his ministry he fell sick in the northern part of Preston County, among strangers and very little money. It so happened that J.C. Gay who was on his return from Pennsylvania, after having disposed of a lot of cattle, and by accident came across him and treated him good Samaritan style, left with him some money to take care of him and leaving his address directed his caretakers to call on him for more if necessary. As time elapsed Mr. Young improved and was brought home by his brother George Young and soon regained his health.

After the close of the great Civil struggle in which both Mr. Young and J. C. Gay took very prominent parts, and for a time were bitter enemies. Mr. Young bought and presented to Mr. Gay a fine quarto Bible in which he placed a remembrance of the kind act of Mr. Gay in the years gone by. This was appreciated and indicates the fact that time and circumstances is a great healer of dissensions.

Mr. Young was a very prominent and energetic actor in the work of organizing the new State of West Virginia, and had it not been for his activity in the matter, it is altogether likely that our county (Pocahontas) would yet have been part of Virginia.

In 1868 he was a member of the State Senate and as a result of his efforts a charter and appropriation was obtained for a turn pike road from Edray to Sand Run in Webster county. He was actively the engineer in locating said road and secured

ey enough to build a part of it. During his work on this line, by accident lead and silver mine somewhere in the depths of the forest, but failed to negotiate with the land owners for part in his find, he would not disclose its location, so the matter is still a secret. The writer saw and tested soon after it was discovered, and unless he was greatly deceived by Mr. Young, which was improbable under the relations then existing between us, the existence of the Ore deposit is no fake, but is lying there just as it has lain for a thousand years.

Mr. Young was a man of indomitable energy and with a great memory well cultivated, and in spite of difficulties, fought to accomplish his ends. He died late in the eighties at Waynesboro, Penn. Many reminiscent parts of his history might be recalled, but for the present let these suffice.

The Pocahontas Times

April 25, 1912.